

**TOWNSHIP OF CHESANING
APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
September 7, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

Regular Meeting: Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Board of Trustees.

Members Present: Supervisor Joe Ruthig, Clerk Julie Paulson, Treasurer Cathy Gross, Trustees: Pete Hemgesberg, Kevin Carlton, Bill Hedrich and Ken Hornak. **Members Absent:** None.

Approval of Agenda: Agenda was presented for approval. Motion by Hedrich, support by Hemgesberg, to approve the September 7, 2023 agenda adding "and Resolution" under New Business, "c.", Consider Early Voter Agreement with Saginaw Co., as well as moving this agenda item up to "a.", under New Business. Vote: All yeas. Motion Passed.

Approval of Minutes: August 3, 2023 regular board meeting minutes were presented for approval. **MOTION** by Hornak, support by Carlton to approve the August 3, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Vote: All yeas.

Presentations: Kyle Bostwick, Saginaw County Chief Deputy Clerk, gave a detailed presentation on a countywide solution to reduce the costs associated with the state required nine days of in-person early voting as a result of the passage of Prop 2, 2022. Combining participating municipal jurisdictions into one centralized early voting site, costs sharing would be based on the number of registered voters in each of the participating voting jurisdictions. For elections in 2024, the total costs of in-person voting in Saginaw County is at \$528,876. Chesaning Township has 3,955 registered voters, which is 2.39 percent of Saginaw County's total electorate which would make Chesaning Township's share \$12,625 for early voting in 2024. Saginaw County will try to get these costs down by applying for a State of Michigan Grant. For counties that have opted out of offering a centralized site, the costs will be prohibitive for each municipality within that county moving forward. There are a lot of accountabilities built into the process. Kyle has been proposing to host this at the former Saginaw County Sheriff's Office, 618 Cass Street as it is the correct location, size, is very safe and secure.

Correspondence: Thank you letter from the family of Patrick Ryan read by Clerk Paulson, thank you letter from The Friends of the Shiawassee River read by Supervisor Ruthig.

Brief Public Comments: Began at 7:44 p.m. There were no comments received from the public. Ended at 7:44 p.m.

Committee/Board Reports:

County Commissioner – In attendance tonight to listen to the presentation of Chief Deputy Clerk for Saginaw County, Kyle Bostwick.

County Road Commission –

SCTOA –

Cemetery-

Building Official –
Ordinance Enforcement Officer –

Rehmann Health Center- Presented by Treasurer Gross. WIC is now attending 2 times a month at the Center. This month the Dental Clinic was full, and the next Mobil Dental Clinic will be the end of November.

Fire Board – Presented by Supervisor Ruthig. Meeting was held on August 9, 2023. There were 25 calls for May, and 121 for the year. Cbfd provided coverage for the Saginaw Co. Fair for 4 nights. Roof and siding repairs are going well. FEMA Grant is still pending. \$206,000 was awarded. Will be used for SCBA equipment. State of Michigan Firefighters Grant has been applied for in the amount of \$40,000. Monies would be used to purchase thermal imaging cameras.

MMWA –

Task Force-

Park's & Rec- Supervisor Ruthig said we need to see about getting an extension for Chesaning Township in regards to the 5-year Park and Rec Plan.

Board Officials Reports:

Supervisor: DTE's SUP has been given to Rowe Engineering and the TWP attorney for review. I'm sure at some point they will want a meeting with myself and the Chair of the P.C. to discuss the review process. Public hearing date and time, location, etc.

Some of you may have received a letter from DTE stating you may be eligible to receive "participation" payments. In DTE's efforts to be a "good neighbor" and "work with our community", they again failed to mention this letter in advance so I have only been made aware of it from a concerned resident. I have no idea who received this letter or who may qualify, but let me read it for you so you all know as much as I do. (Letter read to audience in attendance).

The intersection at M-57 and Corunna Rd. is mostly done. We are working with Consumers Energy to consider alternative lighting for the corner.

Chesaning Twp. has signed a purchase agreement to purchase three acres of land on the SE corner of Niver and Ditch Rds. Surveying has been done and we have the new legal descriptions. Just waiting on our attorney to prepare the deed and set a closing date. Plans are to use this land as overflow parking for Parshallburg Park.

Chesaning Military Classic football game is tomorrow night. All veterans and a guest will get in free and dinner will be provided. All proceeds will go to the Chesaning Area Veterans relief Fund which provides financial help for qualified veterans in our area.

Clerk: I am grateful for Kyle (Chief Deputy Clerk, Saginaw County) to be here tonight to give us the information and explanations as to some of the changes coming our way in regards to Election Law, as well as the information for us to make an informed decision as to the agreement and resolution on our agenda tonight.

Treasurer: We received a State Revenue Share check in the amount of \$39,356. This time last year's Revenue Share check was \$44,472, which is down \$5,161. The last day for Summer Tax Collection is Thursday, September 14th, and I will be open on Thursday, September 14th, with office hours between 9am and 5pm.

Unfinished Business:

- **Discussion About ARPA Fund Expenditures:** A continued review of possible ideas for the Township's ARPA Funds. Among the items on the list, a New Copier has been ordered, and an updated phone system is on tonight's agenda. Further suggestions encouraged as we have until December, 2024 to have our projects earmarked.

New Business:

- Consider Early Voting Agreement for Election Services with Saginaw County and Consider a Resolution with Saginaw County to Establish an Early Voting Site: **MOTION** by Paulson, support by Hemgesberg, to approve the Agreement for Election Services between Saginaw County and the Township of Chesaning as presented. Roll Call Vote: yeas: Carlton, Hedrich, Hornak, Hemgesberg, Gross, Paulson and Ruthig. Nays: None. 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion Passed. **MOTION** by Hemgesberg, support by Hedrich, to approve Resolution #2023-9-7, A Resolution to Establish the Saginaw County Vote Center as an Early Voting site for All Elections Held Within Chesaning Township's Jurisdiction. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Hedrich, Hornak, Hemgesberg, Gross, Paulson, Carlton and Ruthig. Nays: None. 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion Passed.
- Consider (ex post facto) Approval of Additional cost of Printer/Copier (Fax Capability \$460): **MOTION** by Hornak, support by Paulson, to approve the payment of an additional \$460 from the Township's ARPA funds towards the Copier approved at the August meeting, to include Faxing, bringing the total payment for the new Toshiba Printer to \$6,049.48. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Hemgesberg, Gross, Paulson, Carlton, Hedrich, Hornak and Ruthig. Nays: None. 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion Passed.
- Consider (ex post facto) Approval of Mulch for Playground (\$500): **MOTION** by Hornak, support by Carlton to approve \$500.00 for mulch for the playground. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Hornak, Hemgesberg, Gross, Paulson, Carlton, and Ruthig. Nays: None. Abstain: Hedrich. 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstain. Motion Passed.
- Consider Twp Office Phone System and Provider Upgrade (ARPA Funds): **MOTION** by Carlton, support by Hornak to contract with IVS Phone provider for Network Hardware, Phone Hardware and Labor as presented in the amount of \$2,970 to be taken from the Township's ARPA Funds. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Carlton, Hedrich, Hornak, Hemgesberg, Gross, Paulson, Ruthig. Nays: None. 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion Passed. **MOTION** by Paulson, support by Hornak to approve IVS as a phone service provider for an estimated cost of \$120 per month. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Hedrich, Hornak, Hemgesberg, Gross, Paulson, Carlton, Ruthig. Nays: None. 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion Passed.
- Consider Sending Deputy Clerk to MTA's Professional Development Retreat: No action taken, will look into upcoming trainings as they become available for the Clerk's office moving forward.
- Consider Engagement Letter with Laura Hallahan P.C. (Tax Tribunal Representation): **MOTION** by Gross, support by Carlton to hire Hallahan & Associates, P.C. to represent the Township (with Chesaning Township paying 25% and The Village of Chesaning paying 75% of legal fees) before the Michigan Tax Tribunal. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Hemgesberg, Gross, Paulson, Carlton, Hedrich, Hornak and Ruthig. Nays: None. 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion Passed.

Public Comments: Began at 8:37 pm. Public comments were received by 6 in attendance. Ended at 9:14 pm.

Approval of Bills: **MOTION** by Hornak, support by Hedrich, to pay the bills as presented totaling \$33,692.23. Roll Call Vote – Yeas: Paulson, Gross, Carlton, Hedrich, Hornak, Hemgesberg, Ruthig. Nays: None. 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion Passed.

Adjournment: Motion by Carlton, support by Hemgesberg, to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Motion Passed.

Approved: _____

Julie C. Paulson, Clerk
Chesaning Township

Supervisor Approval – Yes___ No___
Change Requests_____

Supervisor Joe Ruthig _____ Date: _____